



Changes to Keene Elementary Schools? Join us and stay informed!

The Keene School District is facing serious funding challenges that need to be addressed responsibly and effectively. In April, 2010, the Keene Elementary Ad Hoc Advisory Committee was formed to seek solutions. Thus far we've held six public forums, drawing many participants into the conversation.

At our next two forums, architect Frank Marinace (marinacearchitects.com) will present updates and results of his firm's professional facilities study on the condition and needs of our five elementary buildings. Join us and stay informed as your school board endeavors to make the best decision for our kids and our community.



Save the Dates!

Community Forums

Wednesday, May 11 • 6:30 PM

Monday, June 6 • 6:30 PM

Keene High School

Can't make it to a forum? You can watch replays on Cheshire TV (Channel 8). Check the schedule at www.cheshiretv.org

For more information on the work completed to date, including community input from previous forums, please visit www.keeneschoolsolutions.org.



The Keene Partnership for School Solutions

be part of the conversation

Food Service

(Continued from Page 1)

Department of Education audit with flying colors. We were commended on our menu selections and use of whole-wheat products, fresh fruits and fresh vegetables.

- We offer a variety of solid whole chicken breast products such as grilled chicken nuggets or patties, breaded chicken patties on a bun or tenders, grilled Caesar salad and grilled chicken fajitas. No foods on the main menu are deep-fried.
- Yogurt and a variety of sandwich choices including lean meats and cheeses, tuna, egg salad, and PB&J are always available as an entrée choice at all schools.
- Grab and Go Salads (already prepared) are available as an entrée at KMS and KHS. The salad includes: spinach, iceberg and romaine lettuce, three fresh vegetables and a protein. Proteins include grilled chicken, tuna salad, chicken salad, or turkey/ham with cheese cubes.
- Salad bar (make your own) is available every day at the middle and high school level and typically four days each week at the elementary level.
- We offer a number of alternate lunch entrée choices for students who follow a vegetarian diet: veggie burgers when cheeseburgers are offered, shredded mozzarella cheese when meat sauce is offered, cottage cheese when breakfast sausage is offered. Yogurt and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches

are also available.

- We have switched from canned fruits and vegetables to fresh and fresh frozen vegetables and fresh fruits at least four days per week. The only canned fruits and vegetables we receive are from the government. The fruit is in "lite" syrup and is drained prior to service and the vegetables are drained and rinsed to remove sodium before being steamed and served.
- All fruit juices are 100% juice.
- The chocolate milk is now ½% milk fat and does not contain high fructose corn syrup.
- We are part of the *Farm to School* initiative and purchase from local New England farmers whenever possible.
- Menus are entered into *Nutri-Kids* software program for nutritional analysis to ensure they meet all state and federal guidelines for nutrition. Our goal is to exceed the guidelines in limiting the saturated fats and increasing protein.
- Many of our staff are ServSafe certified in the safe and sanitary handling of food. At least one staff member at each elementary school: 2 of 5 at KMS, and 5 of 10 at KHS.

"We take great pride in the work we do for students and staff," said Wells. "We have many challenges ahead including new guidelines from the federal government and finding new ways to continue to offer fresh fruits and vegetables every day. With our dedicated staff we will forge ahead."

Union School District of Keene
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Keene, NH 03431

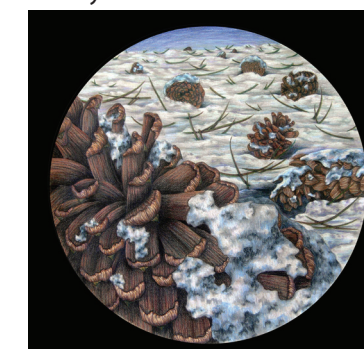
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KHS senior wins National art award

KHS senior Mina Hibino won a prestigious American Visions Medal for her colored pencil drawing *Dormant Conifers*. Mina also won a Gold Key award at the state level in the annual NH Scholastic Art and Writers competition. As a Vision medalist she joins the rank of just 1% of all students who submitted work to the national competition. She will travel to New York City's Carnegie Hall with AP art teacher Shannon Perry in late May to receive her award. Other well known

visionaries include Andy Warhol, Richard Avedon, Truman Capote and Sylvia Plath.



Dormant Conifers by Mina Hibino



NEW KMS SPRINGS FORWARD - This photo shows the media center from an interior courtyard at the new Keene Middle School. Work continues at a rapid pace. More than 100 workers are on site any given day. MacMillin Company, the project's general contractor, has said that all sections of the project, except the auditorium, will be ready with ample time to move in and prepare for the arrival of students on the first day of school September 6, 2011. The auditorium will be ready in October.

KSD Food Service on the move

The Keene Food Services program never stands still. "As a team, we work together to research and add new and healthy menu items," said Director Maureen Wells. "I think one of the most important things we can do for our children is to keep serving them the healthiest and safest meals possible, always encouraging them to try new foods."

Each day food service prepares more than 2,000 meals. Of that number, about one fourth, or 575, are breakfast meals, and the rest, 1,463, are lunches. For many children, the food they eat at school provides them with the most nutritious meal they will eat that day. Nearly 40% of the children who are enrolled in the system qualify for free or reduced meals, which is based on family income. At the elementary level breakfast costs \$1.10 for fully paying children and 30¢ for those qualifying for a reduced price; lunch costs \$2/40¢ respectively; and at the middle and high school, breakfast costs \$1.35/30¢ and lunch \$2.25/40¢. The federal government pays the difference between a family's ability to pay and what the food service program charges for meals. The \$1.4 million food services program is basically self-funding.

In an effort to encourage children to eat more nutritious



LUNCH TIME AT KMS. The district's food service program is constantly improving its menus to offer more whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, and baked instead of fried foods. Here, food service employee, Patricia Bowers, serves students.

foods, food service has initiated the *SnackPak*, which parents can purchase so their children can have a healthy breakfast at snack time. "We've seen an increase of 24% in breakfast participation since we introduced the *SnackPak*," said Mrs. Wells. It was designed for several reasons: one, to offer those students who qualify for free or reduced lunch a healthy snack; two, to save their parents the expense of having to buy snack foods; and three, to offer busy parents, who don't have the time to prepare a snack for their child each day, an affordable snack option.

Mrs. Wells has three goals for the future:

- To continue to encourage and assist families-in-need to complete the free and reduced

meal application process. (This is important to the district, primarily to offer children nutritious meals each day but also because some federal funds, such as catastrophic aid, are determined by the percentage of children who qualify, i.e. the higher the percentage the more money the district receives.)

- Find new and exciting ways to encourage children to try new foods.
- Support the schools' Wellness efforts to improve the health and well being of students and staff.

Here is a rundown of *Keene Food Services Facts You Might Not Know* prepared by Mrs. Wells:

- We passed our NH (See Page 4/Food Service)

KSD and No Child Left Behind

Any public school district that receives federal funds must adhere to No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requirements, which have been in effect for nearly a decade. Under this sweeping legislation, which was a major bipartisan initiative of the George W. Bush administration, schools across the country are held accountable for the performance of their students in math and reading. The goal is to have every student proficient in reading and math by 2014.

Every two years since 2005-06, the bar has been raised for the percentage of students who are required to meet the proficiency level. At present, proficiency percentages stand at 91% of students in reading and 88% in math at the elementary and middle school levels, and at 89% in reading and 72% in math for high school students. New Hampshire uses the NECAP (New

School	Designation	Area	Made AYP 2010-2011	
			Reading	Math
Keene High	SINI	Math*/Reading*	No	No
Keene Middle	SINI	Math*/Reading*	No	No
Daniels	SINI	Math*	Yes	Yes
Franklin	New SINI	Reading*	No	No
Fuller	Not a SINI	-	No	Yes
Symonds	No Longer a SINI		Yes	Yes
Wheelock	Not a SINI	-	Yes	No
Keene District	DINI	Math*	No	No

*designation because of subgroup, not whole school

England Common Assessment Program) tests to measure performance. All students in grades K- 8 and grade 11 take the reading and math tests in October. Results are reported to school districts the following April. The chart above shows the current status of our schools.

All our schools have met these standards on a school-wide basis. Four of them, however, have not met the requirements for all sub-groups as defined by the NCLB law. These schools are Keene High School, Keene

Middle School, Daniels and Franklin, which have been designated as SINI (Schools in Need of Improvement), and our District as a DINI (District in Need of Improvement).

In order for our schools to be removed from SINI and DINI status they must follow a prescribed course of action to address their shortcomings, and meet the standards for two consecutive years in order to be removed from that classification.

It should be noted that Symonds School has met the



Daniels School Title I instructional associate, Judith Sullivan, works with students before school to improve their reading skills. It's part of the school's effort to have all Daniels students reach proficiency in reading and math and have the school removed from a SINI designation.

standards two years in a row and is no longer a SINI school, and that Daniels reached AYP this year. If it does that again next year it will be removed from the SINI list.

All our schools have set the following goals to improve student performance:

- 1. Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum (G/V Curriculum)**
All students should have access to grade-level curriculum that is consistent, regardless of what school the student attends.
- 2. Response to Intervention (RTI)**
All students should have the opportunity to relearn or receive additional support if they did not master the learning targets the first time.
- 3. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)**
All students benefit from teachers working together with peers to share best practices, review assessment data, and work to tailor instruction to the needs of each learner.

School Publication

Scanning the Schools is published three times a year by Public Information Coordinator Christine H. Weeks. Copies are available at the John Day Educational Center, 34 West Street, Keene. Scanning is also posted on line at www.SAU29.org.

• \$5,000 grant from the Walker Fund to Fuller School first grade to purchase a smartboard.

Children's Chorus and The Keene Chamber Orchestra to underwrite the commissioning of a piece of music by American composer John Steinmetz to be performed at the Colonial Theatre May 8, 2011.

- \$715.99 from Donors Choose to purchase an Elmo HV110U multimedia projector for Wheelock Kindergarten.
- \$800 from Linda Rajaniemi in memory of Dave Rajaniemi toward the 2011 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.
- \$500 from Richard and Mary Lavatori toward the KMS 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.
- \$4,000 from the NH Charitable Foundation to purchase hand bells for the North Campus program at KHS.

- \$123.90 from Target's *Take Charge for Education* program to Keene Middle School's *Student In Need* account which is used for field trips, supplies and other school related expenses for students in need of financial assistance.
- An \$850 donation to the 2010 KMS Grade 8 trip to Washington D.C. in memory of David Rajaniemi by Linda Rajaniemi.
- \$3,500 from Energy Corporation for the construction of a walking path around Franklin School.
- \$25,037 from the Kay Irwin Fund Charitable Trust for the art program at KHS: \$10,000 for Apple computer leases, \$12,004 for video equipment for the Irwin Computer Lab, and

- \$3,033 for an art field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum in New York City.
- \$500 from Local Government Center to the Wellness Committee at Jonathan Daniels School.
- \$6,000 from the Cheshire Health Foundation to the district on behalf of *Advocates for Healthy Youth* for Wellness activities to combat childhood obesity.
- \$500 from LGC Health Trust to Wheelock School to monitor asthmatic students.
- \$1,000 from Liberty Mutual Group to benefit the KMS 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C.
- \$5,000 from the Putnam Foundation to Keene All City

The Keene School District gives thanks

The Keene Board of Education would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions to the Keene School District.

- \$100 from the Keene Emblem Club, \$400 from Ann Cooper, \$50 from Beth Caldwell, \$130 from Jill Miler and Richard Goldberg, to the Community Education Literacy Scholarship Fund.
- \$36.15 from Target's *Take Charge of Education* initiative to Franklin School for its playground fund.
- \$556 from *Hannaford Helps Schools* program to the Keene Middle School's *Student in Need* activity account.
- \$1,070.31 in cosmetology supplies from Alan Chmiel to the KHS cosmetology program.

Scholarships - A way to establish a legacy

When Lisa Henkel died suddenly last October at age 40 of a pulmonary embolism, it left her family devastated. As they came to grips with her death it became paramount to them to establish a lasting legacy to honor her life and her devotion to education.

Lisa's younger brother, Alex, was the recipient of her estate and he in turn, in consultation with the family, decided to use his inheritance to establish two funds in her name with the Keene School District – one for students and one for teachers.

In doing so, the Henkels join a long list of community members who have, over the years, established scholarship funds to honor the people they love and admire in order to benefit KHS students.

Last year, the Trustees of Trust Funds, who oversee these contributions, awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarships to KHS graduates. "This is a tremendous achievement in which we take enormous pride," noted the Trustees, "With the end of the 2010-2011 school year approaching, the Trustees are encouraging our friends in the community to contribute to the Keene School District Trustees of Trust Funds. **The Lisa Henkel Memorial Scholarship Fund**

This fund will provide an annual scholarship to a graduating senior at Keene High School to help defray the cost of college. The Henkels have a long association with KHS. Lisa graduated in 1988, her younger sister Heidi graduated in 1990, and Alex in 1993. Lisa went on to UNH where

she received undergraduate and graduate degrees in mathematics.

At the time of her death, she worked as an Adaptive Technology Assistant at Keene State College working with disabled students. She was skillful in adapting learning materials to accommodate blind students in music, mathematics, science, foreign language and other areas.

She was recognized by the *I Am Success* program sponsored by the Monadnock Center for Successful Transitions, citing her, "exceptional talent for turning text - particularly complicated mathematical text - into Braille or a computerized format that people with visual impairments or dyslexia can read."

Her scholarship will benefit "a worthy and needy student who has demonstrated a willingness to work hard at his or her studies and has a concern for the well being of the community. Special consideration shall be given to a student who has shown significant improvement in mathematics while at KHS, and also to a student who has shown an interest in successfully living with disabilities through personal experience, peer interaction or future plans."

The Lisa Henkel Memorial Staff Recognition Fund

This second fund will be given annually for a period of approximately 10 years to a classroom teacher who shows particular dedication to inclusion of students with disabilities within the regular curriculum. The award, up to \$2,000, will be used to purchase extra educational materials.

"My sister dedicated her life to helping those with disabilities to



Lisa Henkel died suddenly at age 40. Her brother, Alex, established two funds in her name to benefit Keene School District students and teachers. It is his family's way of honoring what was important to Lisa.

fully participate in life," Alex Henkel said in a recent interview, noting that it was important to him, his wife, Heather Bell, his parents, Sussan and Paul, and his sister, Heidi, that Lisa's life work continue on in others.

The Henkel funds will bring to 40 the number of funds held by the Trustees. These funds now total \$2.8 million and generate tens of thousands of dollars each year in scholarship awards. Yet more is needed.

"Since the income from the present funds does not cover the financial need of Keene's graduates, and with the ever increasing cost of higher education, the Trustees are embarking on efforts to encourage individuals, families, businesses and others to add their own generous gifts to those already in place. One way to do this is to contribute to a newly created fund called the Keene Memorial Scholarship Fund," they said.

Keene Memorial Scholarship Fund

Contributions to this fund may be made to perpetuate the memory of a deceased family member or friend, to honor a special event like a birthday or class reunion, or to recognize educational achievement. Please see at the right, a complete listing of the donors to the Keene Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Keene Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Keene Memorial Scholarship Fund was established to memorialize people and events worth celebrating, and, at the same time, to assist Keene High School students with their ongoing education.

We honor its contributors:

KHS Class of 1939

KHS Class of 1946

In appreciation of education by Charles C. Abbott

In celebration of Jack Mayes and the

Greek Orthodox Church by Christo Bardin

In celebration of Lucien E. Bergeron, Sr.

by his family and friends

In celebration of Richard L. Champagne

by his family and friends

In appreciation of education by Charles A. Donahue

In celebration of William J. Fahey

by his family and friends

In celebration of Charlotte Gemmill

by her family and friends

In celebration of Eugene Gober by Daniel and Elizabeth Price

In celebration of Beth Hetherman

by her family and friends

In celebration of the KHS Class of 1939

by George Kingsbury

In celebration of Antonette Nawotka

by her family and friends

In celebration of Grace Nichols

by her family and friends

In appreciation of education by Judith P. Sullivan

In appreciation of his employment

by the City of Keene by Russell G. Wallace

In celebration of Ross B. Warren

by his family and friends

A complete listing those who have established other scholarships and educational trusts will be in the June issue of Scanning the Schools.

If you would like further information about the Keene School District Trustees of Trust Funds or about any gift in support of scholarships and/or education in Keene, please contact, the office of our Business Administrator, John Harper, at 603-357-9002 (ext. 202). Our address is 34 West Street, Keene, NH, 03431. Additional information is available at www.sau29.org/trusteesoftrustfunds291.html.